

LEFTISTS WIN ALP CONTROL IN STATE VOTE

VICTORY CONCEDED

Right Wing Gives Up on Losing Bronx, Says Reds Now Rule

HILLMAN BIDS FOR UNITY

Communist Dictation Denied —Vote Light in Democratic and Republican Primaries

By LEO EGAN

Sidney Hillman and the left wing groups allied with him won control of the American Labor party in yesterday's primary elections and immediately held out an olive branch to the defeated right wing groups that had sought to retain the party's helm in a bitterly fought campaign.

As of midnight the left wing forces claimed more than 600 of the 750 places on the State committee, governing body of the party.

Alex Rose and Dr. George S. Counts, the right-wing leaders, conceded defeat shortly after 11:30 o'clock last night, just an hour and a half after the polls had closed. Their concession was made on the basis of incomplete returns that showed the left-wing forces carrying every one of the eight Assembly districts in the Bronx which in prior years had been a right-wing stronghold.

In a joint statement, the right-wing leaders said:

"The Browder-Hillman coalition won the primaries. The Communists who controlled Manhattan, Brooklyn and Queens have now extended their control to the whole party. From now on the American Labor party will be controlled by Earl Browder [American Communist leader] no matter who will be put up as its fronts.

"We have no regrets. We fought a good fight for great principles."

Hillman Denies Red Domination

Mr. Hillman, who heads the Political Action Committee of the Congress of Industrial Organizations, as well as the Amalgamated Clothing Workers, described the result of the primary as "a complete vindication of our bid for democratic representation in the party leadership."

Declaring that the Right Wing never represented the rank and file membership of the party, Mr. Hillman added:

"The vote in today's election shatters the fiction, carefully developed by the party leadership, that if they were defeated it would be as a result of a Communist vote. No one will believe their nonsense that such a great section of the ALP electorate which voted them out of office today is Communist. As every honest man and woman knows, they are bona fide members of trade unions, genuine liberals and progressives, farmers and middle class. To call them Communists was only a desperate attempt to befog the issues in the primaries just concluded in order to maintain power at all costs.

"Now that the primary is over I renew my offer in the spirit of Mayor La Guardia's proposals, which we promptly accepted, to meet with the Rose-Dubinsky-Counts group to draw up a joint slate for the State executive committee and to expand and democratize the party in our common interests in the national elections of 1944 and beyond."

Other Parties' Vote Light

Voting in the Republican and Democratic primaries was light. The Republicans elected eighty-five district delegates and alternates to their national convention; the Democrats eighty-six. None of those suggested for delegates on either side by party leaders had any opposition in the primary.

Of the Republican district delegates all but three to five are understood to favor the nomination of Governor Dewey for President. The dissenting minority are backing Wendell L. Willkie, the 1940 nominee. On the Democratic side most of the delegates are expected to back President Roosevelt for a fourth term.

In conceding defeat the right-wing leaders were outspokenly critical of the role Mayor La

Continued on Page Nineteen

LEFT WING WINS CONTROL OF ALP

Continued From Page One

Guardia attempted to play in the campaign just ended. Although he had been regarded by the right-wingers as their special friend, he stayed neutral in the campaign.

David Dubinsky, president of the International Ladies Garment Workers Union and one of the main sources of right-wing strength, said:

"The Mayor helped. He cost us at least 5,000 votes."

Several times during the campaign right-wing leaders, especially Dean Alfange, manager of their campaign and the 1942 Labor party nominee for Governor, had threatened to walk out of the party if the left wing won.

A conference of right-wing leaders is scheduled for this afternoon, at which their future course will be determined. There was a strong disposition among the leaders last night to walk out of the party en masse and turn it over to Mr. Hillman and his associates.

Both Factions for Roosevelt

Both factions declared during the campaign for the re-election of President Roosevelt, Vice President Henry A. Wallace and Senator Robert F. Wagner.

The vote was much heavier than either side had expected. On the basis of figures at both headquarters shortly after midnight it appeared certain that at least 85,000 had voted out of the party's enrolled membership of 180,000.

At the same hour right-wing figures indicated that the left wing had carried Bronx 10,081 to 9,517, sweeping all eight Assembly districts. In the Eighteenth Assembly District, Brooklyn, more than 7,000 votes were cast, of which the left-wing slates received 3,705 to 3,668.

As indicative of the Communist support given the Hillman slate, right-wing headquarters noted that the vote cast by residents of the Communist cooperative housing development in the Sixth Assembly District of the Bronx was 1,180 for the left-wing slate; 158 for the right-wing ticket.

Not only did the left wing carry virtually all the sixty-two Assembly districts in New York City but their candidates did much better up-State than leaders had anticipated. They carried both Assembly districts in Nassau County, all five in Monroe, all three in Albany, most of the eight in Erie and many other sections in which right-wing strength was exceptional in prior contests for party control.

Committeemen elected in yesterday's primary are required by law to meet within fifteen days to elect a chairman, secretary and treasurer. At that time a new State Executive Committee to fix party policy and act for the full committee will also be set up. The present executive committee consists of fifty-six members, but this number may be increased or decreased by resolution at the meeting.